

REMARKS

Claims 5 and 6 have been examined and have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e).

I. Preliminary Matter

Applicant has amended various portions of claims 5 and 6 for clarification reasons.

II. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,909,532 to Chung et al. (“Chung”)

The Examiner has rejected claims 5 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Chung.

A. Claim 5

Applicant submits that claim 5 is patentable over the cited reference. For example, claim 5 recites, “connecting connection terminals of an outer circuit directly to the electrodes provided at the rear surface of the first substrate.”

Chung discloses substrates 1552 and 1554 (Fig. 13B). Electrodes 1502 and 1580, etc., are provided on the front and rear surfaces of substrate 1554 and are connected via the through holes 1564. As set forth above, however, the electrodes of the rear surface of the claimed substrate are *directly* connected to connection terminals of an outer circuit (see, e.g., outer circuit 15 of Figure 11(c) of the present Application). On the other hand, the alleged rear electrode 1580 of Chung is connected to an outer circuit via elements 1590 and 1508. Thus, Chung depicts a type of *indirect* connection of the electrodes.

At least based on the foregoing, Applicant submits that claim 5 is patentable over the cited reference.

B. Claim 6

Applicant submits that claim 6 is patentable at least by virtue of its dependency.

III. Newly Added Claim

By this Amendment, Applicant has added claim 8 to provide more varied protection of the present invention. Claim 8 reads on the elected invention.

As support for the claimed feature, Applicant refers the Examiner to the non-limiting embodiment of Figure 10(b) of the present Application which depicts electrodes 5-1 and 5-2 as being *recessed within* the front and rear surfaces of the substrate 1. Since the electrodes are recessed, the outermost surface of the substrate 1 becomes flat, thus preventing distortion of the panel when the panel is arranged on a flat surface. Moreover, the electrode is not projected from the surface of the substrate. Accordingly, it is possible to prevent an injury or break of the electrode when the panel is installed in another apparatus.

Applicant submits that the alleged electrodes 1502, 1580, etc., of Chung, are provided on top of the outer surface of the alleged substrate 1554 as opposed to being recessed in the surfaces of the substrate.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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